In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 20, line 25 with the following corrected version.

[0040] In step 412, $B_{1\alpha}$ is increased, while $B_{2\alpha}$ and $B_{3\alpha}$ are kept fixed. This preferentially permits more Class 1 traffic to be serviced on link α on ring X at each service rotation of the scheduler 228, relative to that for Classes 2 and 3, and thus helps improve the performance of Class 1 traffic. In step 414[[418]], B_{1a} is increased, while B_{2a} and B_{3a} are kept fixed. This preferentially permits more Class 1 traffic to be serviced on link a at each service rotation of the scheduler 228 relative to that for classes 2 and 3 and thus helps increase bandwidth utilization of Class 1 traffic on link a. The actual amount of increase may be performed in powers of two, for example, or using some other algorithm. Again, if load imbalance is not subsequently detected, the various Class 1 CBQ parameters can be changed on each of the two rings X and Y.